April 18, 2019

BY EMAIL AND FED EX: 7750 0691 3206
Ms. Kim Trosclair
Louisiana Public Service Commission
Office of General Counsel
602 North Fifth Street (Galvez Building) (70802)
P.O. Box 91154
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9154


Dear Ms. Trosclair:

Enclosed please find an original hard copy and five (5) additional copies of Patrick Miller LLC’s Proposal in response to RFP 19-07. An electronic copy is also being sent today. Please contact me at the above telephone number should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Patrick H. Patrick

PHP:kak
Enclosures
cc: Melissa Watson, Esq. (By Email)
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PROPOSAL OF PATRICK MILLER LLC
IN RESPONSE TO
RFP 19-07, DOCKET NO. R-35142


APRIL 18, 2019

PATRICK MILLER LLC
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Attention: Patrick H. Patrick, Senior Partner
QUALIFICATIONS

This proposal is submitted in response to Request for Proposal ("RFP") 19-07, Docket R-35142, In re: Rulemaking Regarding Alternative Methods of Financing and the Approvals Necessary Under the Commission’s March 18, 1994 and November 13, 1996 General Orders. Patrick Miller LLC ("Patrick Miller" or the "Firm") respectfully proposes to assist the Commission’s Staff with the referenced docket.

Patrick Miller exceeds the minimum requirements set forth in RFP 19-06 and in the Commission’s General Order issued November 10, 2014. The Firm is a Commission approved law firm and has successfully assisted Staff in electric utility matters. The Firm is currently assisting LPSC Staff in four matters. A listing of matters in which we have appeared before the LPSC is attached as Exhibit “A.”

Representative attorneys of the Firm are admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Louisiana and have been actively engaged in the practice of law for at least five (5) years. They are admitted to practice before all state and federal courts of the State of Louisiana. They are also admitted to practice before various federal appellate courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States. The Firm and its attorneys have extensive experience in contract review, negotiation,
regulatory compliance and commercial litigation, including proceedings before administrative law judges and federal and state agencies, commissions, and boards.

The Firm is experienced in participating in cases involving public utility regulation, and other regulatory issues on administrative and judicial levels, including the presentation of direct testimony, representation at technical conferences, report and recommendations, preparation of written discovery and responses, assistance in developing cross examination of adverse witnesses, analysis of comments and exceptions filed to recommendations, and taking and defending depositions. The Firm is experienced in the presentation of recommendations involving public utility regulation, and other regulatory needs on administrative and judicial levels.

This is a rule-making docket initiated by an unopposed directive of Commissioner Skrmetta. The LPSC has General Orders that govern transfers of ownership and control of utilities and their assets as well as stock transfers and incurrence of debt in such situations. In the General Order of March 18, 1994, the Commission ruled that no regulated utility or common carrier can sell, transfer, merge, or otherwise change ownership and control where the values involved exceed 1% of the gross assets of the regulated utility or common carrier without Commission scrutiny and approval. The General Order of March 18, 1994, sets forth 18 factors that the Commission shall consider in reviewing such a proposed
change of ownership and control. The General Order of November 13, 1996, applies to regulated utilities. That order requires Commission approval of the issuance of securities in excess of 10% of the value of the utility’s gross assets or $1,000,000, whichever is lower, but exempts, *inter alia* and as material here, certain prior transactions and certain issuances of securities subject to SEC approval under the Utilities Holding Company Act of 1935. The General Order of November 13, 1996 also does not apply to securities issues exempt from Commission approval pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 45:1175.

The directive in this matter provides in pertinent part:

Recently, utilities have engaged or considered alternative methods of acquiring assets and financing that may not be specifically covered by these orders. Accordingly, I direct Staff to open a rulemaking to recommend modifications, if necessary, to these general orders.

We have reviewed the general orders pertaining to transfers of interest and financing. The Firm possesses a thorough understanding of the Commission’s business and governing statutes and regulations. The Firm has a working knowledge of the Commission’s ratemaking and jurisdictional issues, and applicable Commission and Federal regulations. As a result of the Firm’s extensive business practice, Patrick Miller has considerable experience in cases involving accounting, taxation, depreciation, and other regulatory issues. We also have relevant experience in corporate finance and securities regulation as to publicly-traded and privately-held corporations and business entities.
The Firm’s attorneys have successfully litigated before the Commission; however, the Firm currently does not represent any private clients before the Commission. Neither the Firm nor its members are engaged in any representation that could result in a conflict of interest.

We have examined the “Overview” and all sections of the RFP, and have also reviewed the relevant orders of the Commission. We are confident that we can effectively handle all tasks required to assist Staff. The Firm has professional liability insurance providing coverage in the amount of $2,000,000.00 per claim, as demonstrated by the attached Declarations Page.

**PROPOSAL**

Patrick Miller proposes to assist the Commission’s Staff regarding this review and rulemaking docket. The Firm is familiar with the tasks associated with such a docket and indeed is currently assisting Staff in the “Historic Footprint” matter. We understand that the estimated period of representation in this matter is approximately twelve months. We have the resources and manpower to undertake this representation. While we will be flexible and adhere to the schedule set by the Commission and any changes thereto, we understand that we are to submit a proposed timeline/plan of action, and it is as follows:

1. Review initial documents and confer with Staff and other LPSC-retained professionals – two weeks.
2. Formulation of key issues and concerns in consultation with Staff and other LPSC-retained professionals – two weeks.

3. Assist in setting agenda for Technical Conference(s) and solicitation of comments, review comments and results of Technical Conference(s), draft reports and recommendations in concert with Staff and other LPSC-retained professionals, solicit additional comments and draft any proposed rules in concert with Staff and other LPSC-retained professionals, meet with Staff and LPSC-retained professionals, brief Commissioners as necessary, and meet and exchange documents and proposed rule(s) and revisions with interested parties and their representatives as necessary – four to five months.

4. Preparing in concert with Staff and other LPSC-retained professionals any final proposed rule(s), appearing as necessary at any hearing(s) and/or B&E(s) – two months.

**BUDGET**

Patrick Miller proposes to complete all actions for the scope of representation as set forth in the RFP within a total budget not to exceed:

$48,500.00 in professional fees and $5,500.00 in out-of-pocket costs or expenses.

Statements for professional services and costs incurred will be rendered monthly and shall specifically identify and describe all work performed, the person performing such work, and the time and charge for such work. Legal services will
be billed strictly on the basis of the time actually spent by lawyers and legal assistants in handling this matter. The Firm’s statements shall additionally show the total amount billed to date and the authorized original estimate. Bills will be rendered in strict accordance with the Commission’s guidelines and expenses shall also be separately disclosed with the proof of such expenses attached.

The Firm anticipates that Patrick H. Patrick and Pierre V. Miller II will perform most of the work on this matter. These primary attorneys currently bill at rates of $275.00 per hour. Additional attorneys who may work on this project are Laurence R. DeBuys IV who bills at $275.00 per hour and Steve Mattesky who bill at $225.00 per hour. Legal Assistants bill at a rate of $100 per hour. The Firm will attempt at all times to staff this matter in the most efficient and economical manner.
FIRM RESUME

PATRICK MILLER LLC

PATRICK MILLER LLC is a full-service, solutions-oriented business and defense litigation law firm that is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, its highest rating. Since 1997, our attorneys have provided the highest quality of legal services effectively and efficiently.

The members of our firm have excellent academic credentials and continue to distinguish themselves professionally. With decades of experience, both as in-house and outside counsel, our attorneys handle a variety of transactional, civil litigation and regulatory matters, with an unwavering focus on the client's best interests.

SELECTED PRACTICE AREAS

Our attorneys are well-versed in a variety of business law matters. The following is a sample of our areas of practice:

GENERAL COMMERCIAL, CORPORATE AND SECURITIES - We provide strategic counseling to our business clients and handle general business matters including commercial transactions, negotiating and drafting commercial contracts, and advising clients regarding corporate governance matters. Our firm offers legal services for business entities, such as the formation and organization of corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, registered limited liability partnerships, and non-profit corporations, as well as advice and legal services for mergers & acquisitions, asset transfers, stock transfers, fiduciary responsibilities of officers, directors, partners and members. In addition to counseling business clients regarding these matters, we also represent our business clients in state and federal courts in suits for business torts, unfair trade practices, breach of contracts, and other claims based on Louisiana's commercial and corporate laws. We have represented clients in SEC investigations. Our attorneys are experienced in private equity and venture capital, corporate finance, securities offerings and compliance. We work with many "startup" businesses, and assist companies with contractual, documentary and regulatory issues confronting new companies. We help out-of-
state businesses relocate to Louisiana or set up operations in Louisiana.

GENERAL LITIGATION - We handle contract cases, redhibition claims, software defect claims, intellectual property litigation (patents, trademarks, and copyrights), and antitrust suits. We pursue compensation liens and third party recovery, and defend against intentional tort claims asserted against employers and their insurers. Our firm has extensive experience in representing manufacturers and sellers in products liability cases concerning alleged product defects, namely, manufacturing defects, design defects, defective and inadequate warnings and failure of express warranty. We are proud of our ability to take on unusual and complex matters on behalf of our clients. We do not shy away from difficult cases or convoluted transactions.

MARITIME, SHIPPING AND LHWCA - Our firm has expertise in maritime, shipping and LHWCA matters. We have defended vessel owners, ship builders and repairers, oil companies, service contractors, dock owners, manufacturers, and insurers against maritime personal injury and death claims, seamen's claims, LHWCA claims, DOHSA claims, and wage claims. We have represented cargo, carriers, and underwriters in cargo loss or damage cases concerning ocean, inland marine, rail, and highway carriage. Our attorneys have handled vessel collisions and wave-wash claims, and have sought third party recovery for LHWCA underwriters including Total Marine reimbursement claims. We defend vessel owners and maritime employers against claims brought by seamen. Our attorneys routinely handle sales of ships and seizures of vessels. We additionally handle maritime contract issues including charter parties and bills of lading.

OIL & GAS - Our firm has provided advices to exploration and production companies and energy sector contractors regarding acquisitions & divestitures, farmouts, procurement issues such as master service agreements, and charter party agreements.

BANKRUPTCY & CREDITOR RIGHTS, FINANCE AND BANKING - We provide legal services and advice in connection with financing transactions, loan agreements, security devices, UCC transactions, defense of preference actions, debt enforcement, collections, workouts, debtor-creditor rights, lender liability defense, asset acquisition and disposition, banking and lending, real estate transactions, bankruptcy law, equipment leasing and financing, insurance, liens and
privileges, letters of credit and negotiable instruments.

INSURANCE DEFENSE AND COVERAGE - We defend both insured and self-insured businesses against tort claims, and represent insurers and insureds in coverage disputes. Our attorneys offer advice on coverage issues and appear before the Louisiana Insurance Rating Commission and the Commissioner of Insurance concerning classification disputes. We also handle litigation over premium audits and the amount of additional premium or return premium due. We also represent employers and their insurers against claims brought by employees, including state and federal workers' compensation claims.

REAL ESTATE - Our firm has handled commercial and residential real estate transactions of all types, including transfers of title, donations, leases, mortgages and other financing instruments. We have handled litigation involving real property, including redbhibition suits, acquisitive prescription suits, boundary actions, suits to quiet title and partition actions. We have defended real estate brokers, agents and lenders against claims of fraud, negligence, breach of fiduciary duty and malpractice.

ENTERTAINMENT LAW - Our attorneys have provided counsel regarding contracts, transactions, and litigation for film, culinary, music industry and Mardi Gras industry clients.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - In addition to general business planning and strategic counseling, we have litigated patent infringement cases, and Lanham Act and common law trademark issues in federal court and we have handled cancellation proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. We have litigated "advertising injury" coverage issues for trademark and copyright claims. We have handled litigation over allegedly defective software, worked on regulatory matters for Internet Service Providers, drafted licenses for "e-businesses," and worked on internet copyright and domain name issues. We often register service marks and trademarks with the USPTO.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION - We have defended employers and insurers against state compensation claims, pursued compensation liens and sought third party recovery, asserted second injury fund claims, and defended against intentional tort claims. We have also pursued and defended borrowed employment contribution claims, and statutory employment indemnity claims.
SELECTED BIOGRAPHIES (FIRM LAWYERS PARTICIPATING IN LPSC WORK)

Patrick H. Patrick graduated from the University of South Alabama and from Tulane Law School in 1984, where he served as articles editor for the Tulane Law Review. He has held a Martindale-Hubbell rating of “A/V Preeminent” since 1998. Prior to the formation of Patrick Miller LLC, Pat was a partner at one of the largest New Orleans law firms. Pat’s practice includes regulatory, insurance, and maritime issues. He also has a commercial litigation practice that includes intellectual property and antitrust cases. Pat is admitted to the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and all federal and state courts in the state of Louisiana. He has handled matters before agencies such as the United States Custom Service, the United States and Louisiana Departments of Labor, the United States Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the Louisiana Insurance Commission, the Louisiana Commission on Public Ethics, all gaming regulatory agencies in Louisiana and Mississippi, and the Louisiana Department of Public Health. He is a registered lobbyist in Louisiana. Pat is a member of numerous professional organizations including the Defense Research Institute, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, and Association of Average Adjusters of the United States. He is past president of the New Orleans Propeller Club and currently secretary of the International Propeller Club of the United States.

Pierre V. Miller II received a finance degree from the University of Notre Dame and a juris doctorate with honors from Tulane Law School in 1986. Pierre served as a law clerk for the late Earl E. Veron, United States District Judge, Western District of Louisiana. Prior to founding Patrick Miller LLC, Pierre practiced at one of the largest New Orleans law firms, where he gained invaluable experience and extensive training. He is an experienced litigator who has handled bankruptcy, commercial litigation, and business tort cases in areas including intellectual property infringement and misappropriation, construction, contract, insurance, collections, breach of fiduciary duty, professional malpractice, maritime, and trade regulation at all levels of the state and federal court systems. Pierre handles successions and estates and related succession litigation. He advises clients on oil and gas and other transactional matters, including business formations and the negotiation and drafting of contracts and other instruments. Pierre has been named to Louisiana’s 2008 and 2009 lists of Super Lawyers for Business Litigation and to the 2009 and 2010 lists of Super Lawyers in its Corporate Counsel Edition for Business Litigation.
Laurence R. DeBuys IV is a 1984 cum laude graduate of Tulane University Law School, where he was a member of the Tulane Maritime Law Journal and served as its Research Editor. He is a member of the State Bars in both Louisiana and Texas and is also admitted to practice before all Federal Courts in Louisiana and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas. He is also admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. Larry’s practice has involved primarily maritime and admiralty litigation, and he has extensive experience in defending vessel owners, P&I clubs, and other insurers against seamen and longshoremen personal injury claims. He has handled numerous vessel collision and allision cases both on behalf of vessel owners and on behalf of the owners of maritime facilities. He has also handled numerous cargo matters, including cases that involved detailed evaluation of charter parties, bills of lading, the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act and the Harter Act. Additionally, Larry has both litigated and performed transactional work regarding vessel construction and offshore service contracts. Larry holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

Steve Mattesky received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and European History from Washington and Lee University in 1978. He attended Tulane University School of Law where he served on the Law Review and was awarded his Juris Doctorate in 1981. Following graduation from law school, he was commissioned a Captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps where he served from 1982-1986 as an administrative/environmental law attorney and criminal prosecutor. Upon completion of his tour of duty with the military, Steve joined the firm of Terriberry, Carroll and Yancey specializing in the practice of admiralty, maritime and insurance defense litigation. Steve is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute. He is admitted to practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, United States District Courts for the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Louisiana, all Louisiana state courts and the United States Court of Military Review.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Below are representative sample cases handled by the Firm’s attorneys.

We successfully defended the insurer and TPA in a landmark Louisiana decision on tort liability to a workers’ compensation claimant for alleged “bad faith” claims handling. Livaccari v. Alden Eng’g, 808 So. 2d 383 (La. App. 1st Cir. 2000).
We won coverage for a business assured in the leading Louisiana case on “advertising injury” coverage under a CGL policy. *Carnival Brands v. AGLI*, 726 So. 2d 496 (La. App. 5th Cir.), writ denied, 740 So. 2d 636 (La. 1999).

We represented a casino’s limited partner in AAA arbitration with the general partner over accounting issues, resulting in a $5.673 million payment to our client.

Originally retained as local counsel to defend against claims of patent infringement, trademark infringement, and trade dress misappropriation, when our responsibilities were expanded to include discovery of the plaintiff’s damages expert, we succeeded in obtaining a pre-trial order disqualifying plaintiff’s damages expert from testifying at trial. After entry of a trial court judgment in favor of the plaintiff exceeding $1 million, we were asked to take on a more significant role in appealing the judgment to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeal. The Federal Circuit reversed and remanded the case for further proceedings. Asked to take over as lead counsel for the defense, our firm was instrumental in obtaining a favorable settlement for our clients after the first day of trial. *Hartco Engineering, Inc. v. Wang’s International, Inc., Pilot Automotive, Inc., Pep Boys-Manny, Moe & Jack, Inc. and Overton’s, Inc.*, 04-1480 (Fed. Cir. 7/25/2005), 142 Fed. Appx. 455, 2005 U.S. App. LEXIS 15194 cert. denied, 546 U.S. 1172 (2006).

We represented the General Partner in the negotiation of the terms of the formation of a partnership involving contributions to the partnership and financing totaling over $28 million for the construction of a low income housing complex in New Orleans consisting of 41 buildings and 164 apartment units. Our representation also involved negotiations and drafting of construction loan agreements, permanent financing agreements, construction contracts, and government grant agreements.

We have successfully defended an individual guarantor and his assets against the multimillion dollar claims for indemnification of losses incurred by the issuer of performance bonds to a failed construction company. *Reliance Insurance CO. v. River Road Recycling, Inc.*, 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9196.

We have successfully represented landowners in the enforcement of their rights under mineral leases.

We have successfully advised our clients on the structure of the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of a failing Louisiana business to protect our client and the acquired assets from the claims of the creditors of the failing business.
We have successfully represented both buyers and sellers in redhibition actions and actions for breach of warranty involving products as varied as computer software systems to residential properties. *Connell v. Davis*, 06-09 (La. App. 5th Cir. 10/17/2006), 940 So.2d 195, writ denied, 948 So.2d 125 and 178 (2002).


In a “borrowing employer” LHWCA case, we gained reimbursement for the lending employer over the borrower’s objection that a contract barred the claim. *Harbor Constr. v. Global Fabrication*, 2008 La. App. LEXIS 1306 (La. App. 4th Cir. 2008).

In a “borrowing employer” state compensation claim, we recovered contribution for the lender over the borrower’s contention that the parties agreed to a different allocation. *Omega v. Thornco*, 2008 La. App. LEXIS 1156 (La. App. 1st Cir. 2008).

We represented a seafood processing equipment manufacturer in the last round of litigation with another manufacturer and achieved a global settlement that ended, on mutually beneficial terms, over 40 years of antitrust and patent infringement litigation between the parties.

We represented the employer in a state workers’ compensation case in which the appellate court held that a claimant loses the right to benefits by failing to follow physician instructions to engage in “work hardening.” *Williams v. BET Constr.*, 857 So. 2d 629 (La. App. 1st Cir. 2003), *writ denied*, 862 So. 2d 994 (La. 2004).

Our attorneys successfully defended a health insurer who cancelled two insurance policies, the first for failure to pay the premiums timely and the second for false and material representations in the application. *Viada v. Blue Cross of Louisiana*, 8871 (4/12/1988), 524 So.2d 101.

We have successfully represented a distributorship in an action against the manufacturer for wrongful termination of the distributorship agreement. *Bath v. Hi-TECH International, Inc.*, 97-434 (La. App. 5th Cir. 11/12/1997), 704 So.2d 292.
We organized, and handled securities issuance and corporate finance for a publicly-held offshore production company headquartered in New Orleans.

Please note the appearance in 1994 of the Firm before the Commission as described in Exhibit “A” hereto. The firm has not represented any clients before the Commission since such time and does not currently plan to do so.

**REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS**

Allvend, Inc.
Agility Project Logistics, Inc.
ArtEgg, LLC
Audubon Engineering, Inc.
Audubon Engineering Co., LLC
Bayou Bakery, LLC
Bituminous Casualty Corporation
Cenex Harvest States Cooperative
Chilly’s, LLC
Community Living Alternatives, Inc.
Continental Structural Plastics Inc.
Darling Industries
Dominie, LLC
Energy Partners, Ltd. (EPL)
FFE Transportation Services, Inc.
Global Construction & Equipment, LLC
Heartland Wisconsin Corp.
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
Latino Farmers Cooperative of Louisiana, Inc.
Louisiana Public Service Commission
Marquette Towing Company
MITEL, Inc
NCC Financial, LLC
New Orleans School of Gaming and Bartending
Pacific Cycle, Inc.
Pilot Automotive, Inc.
Pontchartrain Capital, LLC
Provencher Claims Management, LLC
Power Great Lakes, Inc.
RLI Insurance Company
Seagull Marine, Inc.
Transoceanic Shipping, Inc.
Transoceanic Trading & Development, LLC
Traveler's Insurance Company
Underwriters Indemnity Company
United States Department of Agriculture
Veteran's Administration of the United States

EXHIBIT “A”: OVERVIEW OF APPEARANCES BEFORE THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The following is a summary regarding our law firm’s appearances before the Louisiana Public Service Commission:

In 1994, we represented Allvend, Inc., a Customer Owned Coin Operated Telephone (“COCOT”) operator in “Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Paytel Enterprises, Inc. and USA Telecom, Inc.” Docket No. U-20939. Allvend intervened against both Paytel Enterprises, Inc. (“Paytel”) and USA Telecom, Inc. (“USA Telecom”), alleging defamation and anticompetitive acts. The Commission found Paytel and USA Telecom committed violations, imposed fines, required a security bond, and issued cease and desist orders against both defendants. Since then we have not represented a private party before the LPSC.

In 2010 we were awarded representation of Commission Staff in a fuel audit of CLECO. Our involvement was minimal given the resolution of all significant issues by Staff.

In 2016, we represented Staff in a fuel audit of Legacy EGSL, Docket No. U-32245. We were extensively involved in the matter, which concluded with a settlement under which ELL refunded $5.044 million to LPSC-jurisdictional Legacy EGSL customers.

We assisted Staff in the “Dry Cask” matter, Docket No. U-34298, concerning FAC recovery of expenses incurred for dry storage of spent nuclear fuel (“SNF”) and refunds to customers when the utility recovers from DOE for breach of DOE’s obligation to dispose of SNF. A settlement was reached allowing inclusion of these costs and refunds in FAC filings with periodic reports and adjustment in the event material aspects change.

We are currently assisting Staff in Docket No. U-34332, In re Review of Special Order 01-2001 to determine if it remains in the best interest of Louisiana Ratepayers. This complex matter remains under consideration by Staff and consultants.

We are currently assisting Staff in Docket No. X-34696, In re Review and/or facilitation of relocation of certain electric service lines located at the Slidell Municipal Airport in order to facilitate airport expansion.

We are currently assisting Staff in Docket No. U-34860, In re Rules applicable to electric service providers’ provision of service to load outside its historical footprint and rates that may be offered for industrial load. This rule-making docket primarily addresses issues that arise when a utility seeks to provide service to an industrial customer away from the utility’s existing service area.

We are currently assisting Staff in Docket No. U-34951, In re Entergy Louisiana, LLC’s Formula Rate Plan Annual Evaluation Reports for Test Years Ending December 31, 2017, 2018, and 2019.